

I am outraged at the level of direct partisanship illustrated by the Sinclair Broadcasting Company in their decision to require all of their stations to pre-empt scheduled programming for a piece that is labeled as "documentary" much the same way the "Swift Boat Veteran's" ads were labeled as truth. To stand by and allow this type of action to take place is inviting disaster.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They

show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. Thank you.